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# NARRATIVES FROM THE WAR

IN CHARGE OF

ELISABETH ROBINSON SCOVIL

*The Daily Telegraph*, London, has started a shilling fund to erect a memorial statue to Edith Cavell, the nurse who was shot by the Germans at Brussels for assisting English, French and Belgian soldiers to escape from the country. Sir George Brampton, the sculptor, has promised to execute it as a labor of love.

The French have conferred the Military Cross, with commendation in army orders, on a long list of heroic women who, as nurses, staid at their posts, some during the German occupation and all under fire. One, Baroness Fain, was at Château Compeigne when it was occupied by the Germans and, in the words of the army order, "faced difficulties of every kind with calmness, dignity and firmness, ready for all eventualities and constantly encouraging the staff."

Mrs. Louis Herbert, the German wife of an English clergyman, was arrested in England on a charge of sending information regarding munitions of war to the enemy. The judge asked her if she had done this, and she replied, "Yes, I did." The Judge remarked, "This woman has a conscience, she wishes to answer truthfully, she deserves credit for that." She was sentenced to imprisonment for six months.

Champagne, long famous for its wine, has been the scene of some of the most frightful carnage in this awful war. The artillery fire has been so tremendous that over tens of square miles no vegetation is left; even the rabbits and rats have been exterminated. Almost three million shells were hurled into one area in three days by the French, covering the whole country with a white powder. Surviving Germans, taken prisoners, were almost insane for days.

An eye-witness personally inspected a captured gun turret, the doors of which were fastened with chains outside. Inside were three unwounded, but unconscious, German soldiers.

German children are assisting in conserving the national resources by a systematic collection of acorns, horse chestnuts, beech nuts and bass nut seeds. Oil is expressed from them and they are used as a food for animals. The Prussian Minister of Agriculture publishes directions for their gathering, preservation and disposal.

Since the beginning of the war, two thousand French public school teachers have been killed in battle and eight thousand so severely wounded as to be unfit for service.

For the second time in history a Russian woman has been awarded the Cross of St. George. It has been bestowed upon Ivanova, a Sister of Mercy, who died while heroically leading a Russian company in storming an enemy's position after its officers had fallen. Czar Nicholas wished thus to honor her memory. The first woman so distinguished was Marie Durova, who as an officer fought valiantly against Napoleon.

It is stated that the Armenian massacres are no mere ebullition of Turk and Kurd fanaticism but have been administratively carried out in the most elaborate way. In the massacres nineteen years ago, there were 50,000 Armenian victims. Since last May, more than 800,000 have perished. The intention seems to be to exterminate the race. They are seldom armed and proverbially unwarlike. "God," says the Turkish proverb, "made the Armenian the brother of the hare."

A dispatch from Petrograd states that the Russian Red Cross Society has published a list of forty-six Sisters of Mercy who perished in the bombardment of a hospital by the Germans and Austrians.

It is stated that King Edward VII of England foresaw this war as early as 1908, when Bosnia and Herzegovina were annexed by Austria in defiance of the Treaty of Berlin.

Upper Lodge, Bushey Park, a beautiful royal domain near London, has been given by King George as a convalescent home for wounded Canadians. It has been accepted by the Canadian Army Medical Service.

Frederick MacMonnies, the famous American sculptor, who has lived in France for thirty-one years, recently returned to America. He had a studio at Giverny when the Germans began their advance on Paris. Recalling an incident in one of Edgar Allan Poe's stories showing that the most obvious place of concealment was the safest, he placed his art treasures in a barn and threw a little straw over them. They were not discovered.

Experiments have been carried out in France for the prevention of fog in river valleys by pouring oil over areas of water in the valley. By this means the cold air is prevented from meeting the water and so the condensation of vapor in the air is avoided.

The Eiffel Tower, Paris, is in constant use for military telegraphing. The French authorities willingly agreed to suspend all communications at certain times in order that experiments in wireless telegraphing might be carried on between France and America. In October messages of considerable length were received from Washington with the utmost clearness.